CLAIMS

1. A rechargeable battery, characterized in that a battery housing (2) containing elements for electromotive force of a cell (1) is formed in a rectangular shape having short sides with a narrow width and long sides with a wide width, and a plurality of cells (1) are linked together adjacent to one another between the short sides of their battery housings (2) to form a battery pack with a required electrical capacity.

2. A rechargeable battery, characterized in that a battery housing (2) containing elements for electromotive force of a cell (1) is formed in a rectangular shape having short sides with a narrow width and long sides with a wide width, a plurality of cells (1) are linked together adjacent to one another between the short sides of their battery housings (2) to form battery modules, these battery modules are arranged in parallel in a plurality of rows adjacent to one another between the long sides of the battery housings (2), and the plurality of rows of battery modules are linked together to form a battery pack with a required electrical capacity.

3. The rechargeable battery according to Claim 2,

wherein a heat transfer plate (30) with good thermal conductivity is provided between the battery modules disposed in parallel.

4. The rechargeable battery according to Claim 2, wherein a heat transfer plate (30) with good thermal conductivity is provided between the battery modules disposed in parallel, and end heat transfer plates (29) exposed to the outside from the plurality of integrated cells (1) are linked to the ends of this heat transfer plate (30) in the direction in which the battery modules are linked.

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5. The rechargeable battery according to Claim 3 or 4, wherein a coolant is made to flow through the heat transfer plate (30) and/or the end heat transfer plates (29).

6. The rechargeable battery according to Claim 1, wherein a plurality of cells (21) are linked together with the elements for electromotive force of each cell (21) provided inside a battery case (22, 36) in which the individual battery housings are integrally formed adjacent to one another between the short sides thereof.

7. The rechargeable battery according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein a plurality of cells (1, 21) are sandwiched between a

pair of binding plates (14, 24), and the plurality of cells (1, 21) are integrally linked by tying the pair of binding plates (14, 24) together.

8. The rechargeable battery according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the plurality of cells (1) are integrally linked with the linking position and linking direction varied as desired.

9. The rechargeable battery according to any of Claims 1, 2, or 6, wherein a plurality of ribs (8, 23) are formed on the sides of the battery housings or case (2, 22, 36), and a coolant is made to flow through the spaces (11, 19, 26, 27) formed between the ribs (8, 23).